

COUNTRY China
SUBJECT Communist Anti-Guerrilla Campaigns, Kwangsi

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1. During the early period of the development of guerrilla groups, the Communists permitted the various groups to expand and build up an increasing number of men and weapons. As each group expanded, it experienced difficulty in obtaining supplies and began competing for the limited supplies available. Although such rival groups rarely attacked each other, their competition for supplies gave the Communists opportunity for attacks on each group.
2. The Farmers' Associations in the villages and rural area are used to disseminate Communist propaganda, and members of the associations are employed as militia against the guerrillas with the object of forcing the guerrillas to expend their limited supplies of ammunition.
3. To overcome the obstacles to guerrilla activities thus created by the Communists, the guerrilla units in many districts have temporarily abandoned overt action for underground activity. Underground organizations are composed of many elements and serve as a link between the guerrillas and the local population. Thus the strength of the guerrillas is concealed and attacks against Communists with overwhelming military superiority have been avoided. Since June, the militia of over 700* Farmers' Associations has been destroyed and the chiefs of many of the associations have been killed. In the face of such guerrilla action, many Communist sympathizers are now afraid to cooperate with the Communists.

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Comment. The number of Farmers' Associations given is believed to be excessive.

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